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OCTOBER

1954

CARIBBEAN NEWS 6d.

TOO MUCH SUGAR IN WEST INDIES?

DRASTIC cuts in sugar exports, and therefore production have been ordered by the bullying INTERNATIONAL SUGAR COUNCIL, during last September.

Sugar producers who conform to the International Sugar Council, were told that export quotas should be reduced by nearly one million tons, from an estimate of 3,860,000 last May to a now agreed figure of 2,950,000.

Continued on page 5



King Sugar thrives on cheap labour from the pool of unemployed producing slums like this

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Jamaica Governor Condemns Prejudice

THE British West Indian "has every right in this country as the native-born Briton". So said Sir Hugh Foot, Governor of Jamaica, as he addressed a packed meeting of the West Indian Students Union at Hans Crescent, London, on Friday, 10th September, 1954.

Sir Hugh delivered the principal address at the Union's Annual General Meeting. The main part of his address dealt with West Indian Federation.

Scourge of Trinidad

Port-of-Spain: 14/9/54. Health Authorities in Trinidad deny that the reported cases of yellow fever are indications of an epidemic.

Neighbouring South American governments, including Venezuela on the main Jamaica/Trinidad air route, imposed a ban on all through traffic.

Ministerial authorities must remain indicted for the lack of attention generally paid to the HEALTH OF THE NATION*. Poliomyelitis, yellow fever, yaws etc., are all preventable diseases and only thrive in those areas where there is a negligent Health Service.

* By Dr. S. Leff, M.D., DPH., Barrister at Law published by Victor Gollancz, Ltd., Price 12/6.

OIL THIEVES

Georgetown: 9/9/54. When Britain succumbed to USA pressure over the Guiana situation, little did they realize that when the first announcement of oil exploration license was to be registered, it would be in the name of McBride Oil and Gas Corporation of British Guiana Ltd.

This obviously is a subsidiary of the Texan oil moguls of international notoriety, who operate under the same name with the exception of the words British Guiana in America's "deep south".

There isn't even honour amongst thieves!

On this he described himself as a very strong federalist, considering economic independence before political independence as the solution to West Indian problems.

Answering a question, he said that his government had no project that would end the flow of Jamaican or West Indian manpower to this country.

It is the duty of the British government to integrate West Indians in the social and economic life of the country. When the flow of Jamaicans to Britain began increasing rapidly, the British government had asked his government to control it. His government indicated that this could be done only by selected or restricted immigration. Such a step his government would not introduce, and it was up to the British government to take measures controlling immigration.

This, he said, the British government declined.

He condemned acts of violence on West Indians. And he blamed "lurid articles" in certain sections of the British press for creating anti-West Indian feelings.

Continuing, Sir Hugh said: "I was told of the high standard of efficiency and good behaviour of West Indian workers by a high Ministerial official. And wherever I went, visiting Jamaicans, I was deeply moved by the sincere kindness they showed to each other.

"We cannot believe that there are not bad ones among you. There are bad ones among all people, and it is deplorable for all West Indians to be judged by a few bad ones."

In conclusion he suggested the use of radio, television and press to explain why West Indians come to Britain.

★ EDITORIAL ★

LABOUR IMPERIALISM

LABOUR'S policy to the colonies is democratic self-government, proclaims the official Labour Party Statement on Colonial Affairs, issued for the Party's 1954 Annual Conference.

It openly supports armed repression against the people of Kenya and Malaya, and is otherwise just a collection of platitudes.

Indeed, editorial comment of the *Observer* was, "It is hard to see how anyone except a South African Nationalist could object to it".

It attributes the poverty and backwardness of colonial people to "primarily natural causes". Are we then to assume that a beautiful climate, abundant mineral resources, agricultural lands and labour power are the causes of our poverty? How stupid can these Right-wing labour imperialists be to expect us to fall for this rot!

They do not recognise that it is the very colonial political and economic strait-jacket that keeps us in poverty and backwardness.

Independence will have to wait, we are told, till "the development of each territory makes it practicable". Just what these conditions are that would make this "practicable" are studiously omitted from the document.

The Labour leaders aim to ensure us "a fair standard of living and freedom from oppression from any quarter". They do not mention however, that what we colonials need is freedom from British imperialism which is oppressing us.

Lord, save us from our "friends"!

For you see, our Labour protectors' line of reasoning is that our backwardness is due to natural causes, that they are helping us to improve our living standards by giving us back a couple of shillings for every pound they rob us (by means of Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, etc.), and while this slow, painful (for you and me) process is taking place we are to be protected by British Labour imperialism from... "oppression", that is, from ourselves kicking out the big foreign monopolies like Bookers, Tate & Lyle, and others.

Hypocrisy

The Statement is full of cant and fulsome promises of what must be done to raise colonial people's standards.

We offer a very short solution—"Get off our backs!"

How did our people in the West Indies benefit by six years of Labour rule?—Unemployment mounted, cost of living rose. Were the agriculturists given land? Did exploitation by Bookers, Trinidad Leaseholds, and the rest, decrease?—Their profits grew!

That is why it makes one sick with scorn to read the glib hypocrisy poured out by those who differ no jot from the Tories.

No, gentlemen Labour imperialists, we are not taken in with this colonial diversion. Your colonial policy cannot inspire any colonial. And we feel sure the Labour Party members will see through this collection of ill-concealed principles of Labour Imperialism.

The Party rank and file showed their feelings even against their own right-wing leadership when Lyttelton overthrew the Guiana Government. It is with these democrats that we shall together build in common struggle a new policy for freedom and a better life for all.

But we shall fight Labour imperialism as we fight Tory imperialism.

NOTHING can substitute for our national independence!

★

NOT THE ANSWER

SIR Hugh Foot, governor of Jamaica, is right in condemning anti-West Indian feelings. He is also right in saying that West Indians cannot be stopped from coming to Britain.

But if that is his answer to the serious unemployment situation in the West Indies, then we disagree with him.

West Indians are not for export.

Our unemployment problem can be solved. A country so rich in agricultural and mineral wealth can solve its economic problems.

This we can do by industrialisation. We must turn from extractive industries to manufacturing. Above all, we must have political independence. For then we shall be able to direct the use of bauxite, sugar, gold, oil and pitch to eradicate unemployment, ignorance and disease from our country.

Of course, Sir Hugh, would not say that. Only a fool would "kill the hen that lays the golden egg"—for imperialism.

Suppressed Report Confirms Huge Unemployed Figure

QUOTING what it describes as the best authorities, Jamaica newspaper *Public Opinion* estimates that over 260,000 of a labour force of 1,035,000 are unemployed in the island. This means that one in every four Jamaicans cannot get a job.

A survey was conducted in 1946 by the Central Bureau of Statistics, covering Greater Kingston and the ten

largest urban areas. The Bureau report, *Public Opinion* alleges, was suppressed on the orders of Busta and quotes Mr. G. Cumber, of the Research Institute of the University College of the West Indies, as stating that the 1946 "figures may conceal an increase" over those of 1943.

Rising

It is on these "suppressed" 1946 figures that *Public Opinion's* Industrial Reporter, in his turn, arrives at the figure of 264,857 unemployed in 1954. Increasing population, decreasing employment in sugar and bauxite are among the factors that have stabilised the percentage to a round 25 per cent. workless.

The Research Council of the U.C.W.I. is preparing a 1954 report which will be ready next year.

Back Trinidad Freedom Move

WHEN it became clear that Government intended to debate constitutional reform for Trinidad and Tobago the West Indian Independence Party decided to throw its weight behind the most progressive resolution.

The resolution standing in the name of Hon. M. G. Sinanan demanded "An immediate grant of full responsible government".

This would deprive the Governor of his veto and reserve powers, throw out the nominated puppets and make the Executive Council subject to the majority will of the legislature.

Delegation

A 15-man delegation drawn from Arima, California, Arouca, Curepe, Tunapuna and Port-of-Spain by the party interviewed M. G. Sinanan the Wednesday morning prior to the debate on 30/4/54. The delegation informed Mr. Sinanan that although the WIIP's goal was complete independence for Trinidad and Tobago, the people and the Party were prepared to back him on his resolution for the immediate grant of responsible Government.

The delegation led by Lennox Pierre, the Party's Chairman, called on Mr. Sinanan to make their stand known to the elected members of the opposition when they met that afternoon.

[From FREEDOM]

HELP THE FUND

Dear Readers,

I am appealing to you to help me in our fight to keep your paper going.

The contribution for August / September was £1 12s. 6d. Let us try and make the October contribution something to be proud of.

Thank you.

Please send contributions to:
R. Bennett, Caribbean News Fund,
3 Robert Street, N.W.I.

Serious Situation

THE key to success of colonial workers in Britain is how quickly they can build up and consolidate the friendship and understanding of the English working class. In this series I have tried to reveal some of the basic problems; alternatively I have pointed out how some colonials are succeeding in overcoming them.

To round off I think it is important to point out to both English and colonials that apart from their own misconceptions of each other, founded on imperialist ideology, they are falling victims to the persistent effort of employers to maintain and increase the existing antagonism. And to a large extent.

Evil Rift

Recently some very serious situations have developed in certain firms in the engineering and clothing industry. Colonials have been charged with blacklegging. During the period of an existing dispute between workers and management, colonials have been known to accept employment with a firm subject to the terms which have caused the dispute and sometimes worse.

This is creating a serious rift between English and colonial workers, and if allowed to continue might create conditions quite unfavourable to both, but more so to the coloured worker. But this situation must not be allowed to continue. Therefore it falls upon colonials with a clearer understanding to contact and impress upon our countrymen the dangers of such folly.

ST. KITTS PSALM

To this end the Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch) pledges its full support.

The Government is my Shepherd, I work yet I want

It enjoineeth thrift upon me by taxation and casteth my labour unto the sea,

It poureth shekels into Bayfords, but who drinketh the milk thereof?

It bindeth the lightning with small cables so that the voltage thereof serveth not,

It sprayeth my house with oil, yet the drains are broken and unclean,

Its favourite voyage in glory to the ends of the earth, yet the taxpayer goeth to Anguilla at his peril,

If the jail-breaker be not captured how shall the unknown offender be apprehended?

Though I walk not through the Valley of the shadows I disturb the illicit distiller,

Surely there is no other Government like unto this, that wasteth my substance and sayeth, Aha! Aha!

For it is perfect in its own sight and careth not for the suffering of the people.

(Reprinted from THE DEMOCRAT, St. Kitts)

Arthur Brown concludes his series on West Indians in British Industry



Of course in many cases ignorance of trade union principles might quite justly be the excuse. In others it is simply the need for a job. Thus it can be seen that the trade unions themselves must accept some of the blame. The importance of drawing coloured workers into trade unions, into the working class struggle, is not grasped by enough union representatives in shops and factories.

It follows, therefore, that the task of eradicating this danger rests mainly not on our shoulders, but should be a joint effort of the British T.U. movement with the assistance of progressive colonial organisations in Britain.

BOOK WORLD

'If only we were strong enough

WHENEVER you hear a West Indian or any other colonial say this again, just get out your copy of **ALLIES FOR FREEDOM**, hand it to her or him, collect 6/- in return, and you will have done them the next kindest act, short of national independence.

Last April a conference was held in London at the Caxton Hall, with representatives from the leading Workers and Communist Parties from every corner of the British Empire.

What a colourful affair?—not only the costumes, not only the variety of accents, with the slow West Indian drawl, the soft cultured tones of educated Indians, or the quick excited note of the impatient Irishman, Michael O'Riordan, who with conflicting emotions, declared, "We were the first country to be oppressed by British Imperialism and have the longest record of resistance."

—this was Harry Pollitt, Secretary of the Communist Party in Britain.

At the conference, representatives from Britain's imperial monster, retold a story, yes it was one story of oppression, robbery and violence, but it also contained the aspirations of 400 million people shouting from the Sudan, Singapore and San Fernando.

Just tell me how much of this, where every facility was available to the Press, appeared in the national newspapers in Britain or her colonies?

This is your answer, to so much that we all have been denied. The publication **ALLIES FOR FREEDOM** is a document available from Central Books Ltd., Red Lion Square, W.C.1, which will explain and encourage even the most diffident, with the strength it promises. Whether one agrees or not with the conclusions expounded, this factual material from the man on the spot is not available elsewhere, and there can be no gain-saying the elementary truth that climaxed the historic introduction to the general debate, as formulated by perhaps the most widely known and read English theoretician on Political Economy, Mr. R. Palme Dutt:

"The solidarity between the working-class in the imperialist countries and the struggle of the colonial working-class and the national liberation movement of the colonial and dependent peoples needs to find expression not only in words and resolutions, but in practical action. When the Scottish Area of the National Union of Mineworkers voted money to help the Nigerian miners after the Enugu shooting or when a progressive lawyer like D. N. Pritt goes out to Kenya, Pakistan or British Guiana to defend colonial fighters under attack by imperialism, or when Lieutenant David Larder refused to carry out atrocities against the Kenya African peoples and faced court-martial for his refusal; these are declarations of practical solidarity the extension of which can ALONE make the alliance a living reality and a power capable of defeating the imperialist enemy."

Now let me introduce to you an Englishman, one who has himself suffered much in poverty in Britain's industrial hovels and one who has suffered much for the fight he has put up in defence of working-class conditions, this in his own words was the political picture in India as he saw it even earlier in 1954,

"As long as I live, as long as I have breath in my body, I never want to see again the things that I saw in that great country. They are seared like red-hot iron on the tablets of my memory. I felt dishonoured and ashamed, and bereft of the power of expression. I thought of what I would feel AND DO if my wife and son and daughter had to live as I saw other mothers and children living."

Democracy for Guiana and all West Indians

Join the Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch) and make your voice effective in a way that Lyttelton will understand.

- ★ The C.L.C. stands for Independence for the West Indies and Federation.
- ★ It actively campaigns for these aims politically.
- ★ There are also activities to suit all interests—organised by the Social, Cultural, Youth, and Women's Committees.
- ★ Membership dues are 5/- per year payable either in one sum or in two instalments of 2/6d. each.

Register your indignation at Lyttelton's action against Guiana in a way that can help the campaign...

JOIN THE C.L.C. NOW AND STRENGTHEN THE FIGHT

Post to the Secretary, Caribbean Labour Congress (L.B.), 3 Robert Street, N.W.1.

I wish to become a member and enclose subscription ofs.d. (5/- per year payable either in full or two sums of 2/6.)

NAME

ADDRESS

NEW GUIANA RAIDS

ON August 2nd police were active throughout the colony on operations entirely different from any carried out before. In Berbice there were numerous raids and sixteen persons were held by police for fourteen hours for questioning. Police stood guard for 24 hours at the home of Dr. Jagan's parents in Plantation Port Mourant while the house was searched and the yard dug up.

In Georgetown, police raided the homes of Rory Westmaas and Martin Carter at 4 a.m. and also raided the Arcade printery and the P.P.P. office. Police threw a barbed wire barricade over the public road at Buxton holding up all traffic, searching cars and persons for several hours. Two days later they barricaded the road on the West Coast of Demerara.

There have been rumours, followed by an article in the "Daily Chronicle", that leading members of the P.P.P. are soon to be deported. The editor of the "Daily Argosy" has on several occasions called editorially for deportations.

Legal Shackles

On August 9th Rory Westmaas, Junior Vice-Chairman of the P.P.P., was found guilty on a charge of violating his restriction orders. On one occasion he failed to report at the required time of 8-10 a.m. daily at the Police Station. The magistrate fined him \$150 (about 30 guineas) or, in default, three months' imprisonment. Westmaas, representing himself, told the court that "the Emergency Order is an imperialist law designed to suppress the aspirations of the people for independence".

Brindley Benn, leader of the proscribed Pioneer Youth League, was found guilty on one charge of having prohibited literature in his possession at the New Amsterdam Court on August 9th. The four other charges were dismissed. Benn was unrepresented by counsel, as Barrister Burnham was refused permission to travel to New Amsterdam and Benn was refused permission to travel to Georgetown to consult counsel.

He was fined \$35 or, in default, two months' imprisonment. It is understood that the case will be appealed.

Billy's Corner

★
by Billy Strachan
★



DO you know that every day my work in the CLC becomes more and more intriguing?

Over the past month we have had young students calling in for advice on their position with relation to compulsory national service; we have had the pathetic stream of job-hunters, and house seekers. It's gruesome in some respects, pitiful in many, but the one positive reassurance is that our people know where to turn in time of need—it is a privilege for which we are humbly grateful.

Our Membership Organisers have been working hard and winning new members by explaining why we are faced with so many problems and hindrances here in Britain.

Colonialism

How quickly it is understood too! The first two meetings we held on this burning question clearly showed this. How quickly everyone sees that the root of all the trouble is our inferior colonial status, and for that reason turn attention towards the talks of the Federal Constitution in 1956.

True, it is not what we want, it is glorified crown colony status, but with all the baloney put out both at home and abroad, more and more questions come rolling in to us. This enthusiasm lays the lie at the tripe our shady pessimists put out, that we have no national pride!

Humbly we acknowledge all those queries, from St. Lucia, Paris, the Bahamas, Dominica, and New York. CARIBBEAN NEWS honours to that trade union secretary in Bermuda, who volunteered and paid up FIVE years annual subscriptions in advance!

Is this the spectre that is haunting Viscount Chandos of Aldershot?

Same Difference

Hmm, Lyttelton has gone and Lennox-Boyd is in. Seriously, there is very little difference in it. Mr. Oliver Lyttelton the pugnacious businessman, was equally at home controlling his capitalist octopus—ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES—exploiting millions of workers, or pursuing Tory policy for the plundering of colonial resources.

One only has to look at the blatant advertisements that appear listing AEI subsidiaries, British-Thomson Houston, Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical, Edison Swan Electric, etc., simultaneously telling us of the successful contracts secured by BTH to supply "the six 16,770-kva waterwheel alternators at Owen Falls dam in UGANDA."

Now the Viscountcy, CHANDOS OF ALDERSHOT, for loyal duties to British colonialism; but this is not entirely a novelty. The title has long been in the family, dating back to 1554—the heyday of Elizabethan slave trading and land grabbing.

Since Lyttelton sat in the old War Office saddle at the Colonial Office in 1951, until July 28th, 1954, his regime saw the war in Malaya rise to more terror, Kenya driven to the depths of a blood-bath and Guiana denuded of democracy.

Insult on Injury

Now he has been superseded by Mr. Lennox-Boyd, a more practised politician in the rough and tumble of the electioneering arena.

Too well, will the WEST INDIAN STUDENTS' UNION recall that occasion (1952) when we jointly presented a foolproof case on the denial of civil liberties in the British occupied Caribbean. The bewilderment was to be seen to be believed—after a futile glance at the two fulltime hirelings from the Colonial Office, the adjournment was announced for approximately one month! To date, there have been more bans on travel, on literature, on free speech.

Now for the "I told you so" quotation: Georgetown: September 13th: "Although the release of Dr. Jagan today..." TIMES. Didn't I promise you this last month?

'Desperate for a Job'

ANOTHER 680 Jamaicans arrived in Britain on September 22nd. About 400 men and 280 women and children.

The appalling unemployment in the West Indies can be gauged by the official figures given for arrivals from Jamaica alone. Since 1948 they averaged 1,500 to 2,000 a year but this year the number has jumped to over 6,000 from January to September. If West Indians from Guiana, Trinidad and other territories are included the figure would be much higher.

The *Birmingham Post* writes of three recent arrivals who had been unemployed for five years in Jamaica, and were "desperate for a job". These West Indians must for the most part borrow from £80 to £100 to get over to Britain in the hope of finding a job.
(See report on Unemployment on Page 2)

VIGOROUS PROTEST

THE Jamaican House of Representatives has urged the Government to "vigorously protest" to the Canadian government over the discrimination shown towards a Jamaican girl, Miss Dorothy Holtz. Miss Holtz who went over to British Columbia to marry a Canadian school teacher, was given 5 days' notice to leave the school because of the colour of her skin.

It is understood that the young lady has learned a good deal through her experience.

White Miners Reject Colour Bar

READERS may remember seeing press reports that a Jamaican miner was refused employment at the Denaby Colliery by a Labour Officer on the grounds that the white coal miners would not work with a coloured man. The Caribbean Labour Congress (London) wrote the secretary of the branch concerned, and received the reply which we publish below from Mr. G. M. Hanson, Secretary of the Denaby Branch, National Union of Mineworkers, in which the full facts are given.

Dear Sir and Brother,

Many thanks for your letter dated August 19th, which was read at our last Branch Meeting at which I was instructed to give you the whole facts regarding the coloured Jamaican seeking employment at Denaby Colliery.

The first intimation we had that this man had even sought employment at this colliery was when we saw the statement in the *Daily Herald* that we had refused to work with Fabion McIntosh because he was coloured.

These are the facts. In 1950 this Branch along with every other Miners' Branch in the Country was asked if we would accept Foreign Labour in our pits. This Labour was Italian and Polish, and we, like many other Branches in South Yorkshire, refused; our reasons for refusing being (a) we were of the opinion that the Mining Industry could be made attractive enough to attract British Labour, and (b) we had a fairly large number of young miners who were waiting to be upgraded and in our opinion the introduction of Foreign Labour would make their position worse.

We never at any time discussed the problem from the point of view of a man's colour, in fact, a coloured Jamaican worked at this pit for many years until he died. His two sons commenced as boys, one worked here until he died some 12 months ago, and the other is still working happily alongside us. It would appear that Fabian McIntosh answered an advertisement and applied to Mr G. H. Farrow, Area No. 3 Labour Officer, for a job at Denaby and was accepted. In a further letter to the Labour Officer he revealed the fact that he was coloured.

This Officer then, without even consulting the Branch to see if his facts were correct, replied that he could not come to Denaby as the Branch would not work with coloured or foreign nationals, thus imputing that we at Denaby were operating the Colour Bar. We strongly resent this and say quite bluntly that we do not mind whatever colour a man is, if he is a worker and a Trade Union member he will be treated with the same consideration by us as any other worker.

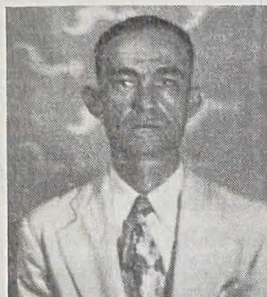
Yours fraternally,
G. M. Hanson.

Victory for 3 P.P.P. men in St. Vincent — Election frauds alleged

ST. VINCENT people's leader, E. T. Joshua, president of the People's Political Party, and two other P.P.P. candidates, E. A. Joachim and H. F. Young, won seats in the August elections. Together they polled 4,549 votes while independents who gained the other five seats together polled 3,653.

Meanwhile thousands of signatures have been collected for a petition forwarded to Colonial Secretary Lennox-Boyd alleging various offences committed by the landlord-government bloc prior to and on election day.

The extraordinary figure of 1,749 votes were rejected.



E.D. Joachim
North
Leeward
Constituency

The fact that for, roughly speaking, every eight votes cast one is rejected is by itself no surprising comment on the

Popular Front for Jamaica

HUNDREDS of delegates attended a conference called by Jamaica's People's Freedom Movement at Forresters last August. Sponsors were a broad group of citizens dissatisfied with the policies of the two major political parties.

Special applause went to Richard Hart, general secretary of the Jamaica Federation of Trade Unions, when he attacked the "rotteness" of the Bustamante Party and indicted the Peoples National Party for betraying the people and the struggle for national independence.

Rolly Simms presided and present were Ferdinand Smith, president of J.F.T.U., Miss Gwen Edwards and Mr. R. O. Gordon, election candidates.

The People's Freedom Movement, it was stressed, was not a political party but a broad front popular movement designed to put pressure on reactionary politicians, and further progressive policies.

A People's Programme, agreed on after a full debate, called for £1 per week unemployment assistance; the vote at 18; the right to recall unsatisfactory representatives by petition of the majority of the electors; and a campaign to free the island from exploiters.

Meanwhile leaders of the J.F.T.U., and the affiliated Sugar and Agricultural Workers' Union have been carrying the struggle to the working class throughout the length and breadth of Jamaica.

FREE GUIANESE

Over 1,000 signatures collected in Jamaica to a petition demanding the immediate release of imprisoned Guianese patriots was dispatched to the Tory Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lennox Boyd.

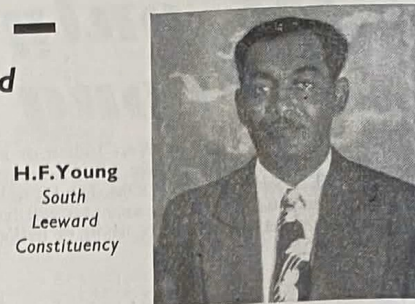
A letter enclosing the petition through the Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch) called upon the Tory Government to end the fascist rule that has been established in Guiana following the overthrow of the Government of Dr. Jagan by the British troops and warships on October 9th, 1953.

The text of the letter to the C.L.C. stated in part:

"The tireless work of the C.L.C., in the cause of Caribbean freedom continues to be an inspiration to the peoples of the Caribbean in their struggles against imperialism and oppression. Your militant drive in the fight against imperialism in Guiana is new proof of this; and we are confident that with your help final victory belongs to the people of Guiana.

Long live the C.L.C."

In the meantime more petitions are being signed and will be forwarded to the Colonial Office soon.



H.F. Young
South
Leeward
Constituency

standard of education after hundreds of years of British rule.

Yet of the rejected ballots only 64 were rejected in the Central Windward constituency where illiteracy is held to be highest as compared to 107 in the capital city Kingstown.

Further, in North Windward, where Joshua won triumphantly, the Government, following polling day, ordered all crown land holders to quit, estate owners having issued notices to all renters. Not to be outdone, the Grand Sable estate has issued no less than thirty quit notices.

Every winning P.P.P. candidate received more than a thousand votes. Only one independent received over 900 votes and there were nineteen candidates posing as independents and seeking to split the P.P.P. vote.

The St. Vincent people who have so convincingly shown their faith in Joshua and the P.P.P., are now seeking to send him to England to prove the case contained in their petition.

Inevitably he is having difficulty in getting his ticket. But then freedom to travel was never meant for colonials.

CALL TO RURAL YOUTH

LAST year the young people of the little village of Ravenna, Italy, called a meeting to discuss their conditions, which like most other young people in Rural Areas suffer from numerous injustices such as very low wages, no proper educational, recreational and health facilities.

After a thorough discussion it was decided to ask the World Federation of Democratic Youth to initiate a World gathering of Rural youth. All member organisations fully agreed to this and a preparatory Committee was set up with headquarters in Vienna.

The first meeting of the Committee met in April at Vinding-veile, Denmark, and issued an appeal, part of which follows:

"We believe that this Gathering will give the opportunity to youth representatives to discuss their conditions of life, to state their needs, to map out the path to win these needs, and will contribute to strengthening the unity of rural youth in all lands in their desire for a better future, mutual understanding and friendship.

"Young peasants, farmers and tied farmers!
Young agricultural workers!
Young teachers, doctors, technicians and agronomists
living in the countryside!
Rural Youth!"

"In response to your call for land, guaranteed work and adequate wages, to win tax and rent reductions, to improve agricultural working conditions, to achieve your desire for proper training, for full use of leisure time, to take part in sport, for the assurance of democratic rights for peace and national independence of your country.

Unite!

"Unite! Prepare for the International Rural Youth Gathering!"

This Gathering is well timed and no one is in need of a meeting of this type as the West Indian Youth who are going through untold hardship. We must make our voices echo through the globe. We must start discussing our problems NOW in every house, street, town and territory. Invite youth leaders to speak throughout the West Indies. For further information write to:

Youth Organiser, Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch), 3 Robert Street, London, N.W.1. England.

Typhoid Threatens African Prisoners

Kenya—Several cases of typhoid fever have broken out at the Kanyani Concentration Camp.

Over 12,000 Kenya Africans are detained there, and it is feared that unless inadequate medical facilities are strengthened quickly, scores of internees would die.

Units of the Kenya Liberation Army attacked the Lakinia prison releasing over 200 prisoners. They captured large stores of ammunition and guns.

British Army authorities claim the recapture of 90 prisoners.



African Pimpernal

They seek him here
They seek him there
Those Impis seek him everywhere.

Is he in Neri,
Is he in Nairobi,
That fearless patriot, Kimathi.

(By Chris)

Heavy British troop formations have been combing the Neri region for Didan Kimathi, "Mau-Mau" leader . . . It has since been reported that it was he who led the great attack on Lakinia concentration camp . . . and hundreds escaped to freedom.

Caribbean News

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Foreign Affairs

Manilla Pact

By E. Chris LeMaitre

AMERICA and her imperialist partners have formed another aggressive bloc. And S.E.A.T.O. is a well-calculated slap in the face of the heroic Asian peoples. Fifteen years of remarkable progress in the national liberation movement has been undermined by Pakistan, the Philippines and Siam.

That the Philippines, a ward of America, and Siam—under a dictatorship—joined the pact, is no surprise. But Pakistan's inclusion is shockingly immoral.

Though we do not expect Pakistan's parliament to ratify the pact, we look forward hopefully to the forthcoming meeting of the Colombo Powers. We believe Pakistan's folly would be shown to her by her Colombo partners in time to save her from the imperialist path.



Premier
Nehru
of
India

S.E.A.T.O. is aggressive in character and intent. This is seen by its declaration on Cambodia, Laos and

Southern Viet Nam, in contravention of the Geneva agreement.

On the credit side, China, India and Indonesia have denounced it, and Ceylon has ignored it.

Mr. Nehru, Indian Prime Minister, has described it as "most unfortunate and likely to encourage aggression", and would "create an atmosphere of war".

While American planes drop American bombs on China; while treacherous Chinese murder their countrymen at America's command, we wonder whether S.E.A.T.O. is to defend or offend South East Asia, and destroy Asians.

Death of E.D.C.

THE French parliament by a majority vote has killed E.D.C. No peace lover or nation should mourn its over-due demise.

A vigorous campaign led by Communist M.P.s. removed the terrifying spectre of a supra European army—one with ex-Nazi generals holding prominent positions. Such an army, having German contingents pledged to pursue the Adenauer line, would have pulled it into conflicts endangering world peace.

For Adenauer's policy, as he stated on September 7th, 1953, is: "Instead of reunification let us rather talk about liberation, liberation of our brethren in slavery in the East. This is our aim, and that we shall achieve—but only with outside help".

France's position in European affairs, wavering since the end of the last war, has been brought to the front line by its bold decision.

After E.D.C., Premier Mendes-France should turn down any militaristic alliance offered by America and Britain. His "all-European" peace plan should be as bold and decisive as his parliament's E.D.C. vote. And to be that bold it must contain the peaceful character of Molotov's all-European (East and West) fifty years Non-Aggression-Pact.

Labour's Good-will Tour

THE visit of Mr. Attlee and his group of labour leaders to the Soviet Union and China has been hailed as good and right in progressive quarters—America's ignorant rantings notwithstanding.

That two former ministers of the British government made the trip is of the greatest importance. It is important from two aspects.

The one—British electors are disappointed at the failures of the Tory government, and would not hesitate in replacing it at the next elections by a Labour government. Such a government would be headed by Mr. Attlee. And he has met the great leaders, Malenkov and Mao Tse Tung, of the Soviet Union and China respectively.

With them he discussed peaceful co-existence as Lenin, who created the phrase, showed how capitalism and socialism could live together.

And the other—wherever the delegation went in the two countries, they saw great industrial, social, and cultural projects under way. Clearly it was seen that no country could undertake such peaceful developments and intensive rearmament at the same time.

We eagerly await Mr. Attlee's return. That is, to see if as Leader of the Opposition, he would use his office to strengthen ties between Britain, China, and the Soviet Union.

TOO MUCH SUGAR

continued from page 1

The COMMONWEALTH SUGAR AGREEMENT which limits West Indian sugar for the British market to 670,000 tons with 18,000 tons from British Honduras, is a result of our subjugation to Britain, and their in turn capitalist participation in the restriction of food production, in the interests of higher prices. Prices which do not benefit sugar workers and their ancillaries who sweat and strain throughout the Caribbean for absentee foreign landlords.

Sugar is the largest employer of labour in the West Indies, more than 30% of the employed labour force. Any tiny inroad on the already highly tensioned economy is felt in geometrical proportions amongst the over-exploited people.

The JAMAICAN sugar worker earns on an average 9/- per day for a MAXIMUM of 5 months of the year. For 7 months there is no crop, no unemployment pay, no national assistance; total earnings for the working year therefore never exceed £50-£60, giving an overall average of about £1 per week. Guiana, Barbados, Honduras, Trinidad compare equally.

So much for the TIMES Summer Supplement 1954, which stated that "the International Sugar Agreement which was eventually negotiated and which came into force on January 1st, 1954 fully protects the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement".

Profits from Poverty

On September 7th, the City Editor of that same illustrious organ the TIMES, was quite blunt he admitted, speaking for big business, that the "session (of the Ex. Cttee. of the I.S.C.) is awaited with anxious interest by the world's sugar traders" because the spot price, "remains below the minimum of 3.25 cents prescribed by the sugar agreement."

What a travesty of our period, when millions starve in the luscious islands of the entrancing Caribbean, no sugar, no work; the incidence of praedial larceny rises, flogging is re-instituted, over crowded prisons bulge at the seams—and against this we have Bookers Of BG and Tate & Lyle with their subsidiaries, reporting profits of over Twelve million West Indian dollars (for Jamaicans £2,500,000) for last year.

This is the price of colonialism!

Unholy Alliance

Still unsatisfied with their crime against mankind, the Int. Sugar Council has invited India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Peru to join this unholy alliance.

When the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was accepted in London 1951, West Indian representatives including the Hon. Albert Gomes, Hon. W. Busta, "Prime Minister" Grantley Adams agreed that our sugar production, potentially 1,000,000 tons should be limited by the British quota. Think of the unemployed in the islands, look at the grief and sorrow that molests the West Indian peasant-farmer, that has no alternative, chained to a single crop economy.

Added to this plight, there is now to be a cutting of exports in their words, a surplus of 254,000 tons to be disposed of. The consequences scream at you from the cold print of black and white and we see more sorrow, more grief, more unemployment, more starvation, DEATH.

Over-population?

Simultaneously with these fiendish plans, conferences have been meeting in London, Denmark and elsewhere, assisted by very learned professors of bourgeois economics who are obsessed with capitalism's inability to feed the world's increasing population. It must be admitted that this is all too ridiculous to believe, but it is the stark truth.

The World Health Organisation, UNRRA, Colonial Development funds, Truman's notorious Point 4 Programme, World Bank, everyone is fully exposed for the fraud that they intentionally have been. Society that offers production in plenty, production for use and NOT for profit are our only refuge. Look at the practical possibilities; read and reread every report of visitors and investigators who have travelled throughout the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Poland, Eastern Europe and China. Population increase in China alone, is estimated at 12 millions annually, and this is greeted with all the uninhibited welcome that man was made to exhibit, at the sight of a new healthy vigorous advancing society.

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DANCING TILL MIDNIGHT



Photo by Barry's

THE C.L.C. Summer Dance at the Royal Hotel on Saturday, 11th September, provided the social event of the year.

From early evening until midnight, hundreds of dancers enjoyed themselves to the music of Ginger Johnson's Afro-Cuban and Latin American orchestras. Among them were scores of West Indians who had recently arrived in Britain.

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Among the notables present were Phoebe Kwaku, who recently in one of her articles paid tribute to the C.L.C., Miss Katherine Davis, popular Radio Trinidad announcer who is in England appearing frequently on the radio, T.V. and Films, and Yack Subero, Trinidad contender for the B.W.I. Welterweight crown, who is presumably holidaying here from Holland where he is on contract along with five other Trinidad boxers.

A happy group of revellers was caught by our cameraman in the picture above.

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Racial Discrimination Must Go!

THE Caribbean Labour Congress held a successful meeting in protest against racial discrimination at the Co-op. Hall, Kilburn, N.W.6, on Friday, 3rd September.

Carlton Bayley, Vice-President of the C.L.C., presided. He condemned racial discrimination which he called the chief weapon of the imperialists in dividing the colonial and British workers, in order to exploit them.

WEST INDIES CLASSES

A series of fortnightly classes will be held by the Caribbean Labour Congress at 3 Robert St., N.W.1. The first class will be on Friday, 29th October, 1954, at 7.30 p.m., and the last on Friday, 10th December, 1954. These classes will deal with the origin of the West Indians, their social and economic life, and the future of the West Indies. The public are invited, and are asked to do some previous reading of one or all of the following books:-

"The Negro in the Caribbean" by Pro. Eric Williams, "Forbidden Freedom" by Dr. C. Jagan, "Negro Victory" by Dr. H. Moody, "Colour Bar" by L. Constantine, "Allies for Freedom", Workers Parties Conference Report (Farleigh Press Ltd.), "A People Reborn" published by Lawrence & Wishart.

Mr. J. P. Compton, President of the League of Coloured Peoples, Ltd., described the colour bar as an instrument of control used by the imperialists. This was essential to their policy of divide and rule.

However, "by bringing to the notice of the British workers the conditions in the colonies", he said that a solution to this vexed problem would be found. He ended by calling for unity among West Indians in the fight for national independence.

Bringing the meeting to its end, Billy Strachan, Secretary of the Caribbean Labour Congress, L/B, compared the problems of coloured people with that of the Irish people and other minority groups.

A follow-up meeting was held at 3 Robert Street, Euston, on Thursday, 9th September. Principal speaker George Pefkos, editor of the Cypriot paper "VEMA", described the repressive regime under which his people lived in Cyprus.

Accusing imperialism as the common enemy of all workers, irrespective of colour, he called for a determined alliance of colonial and British workers to successfully combat the common enemy.

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